THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNILALL): (a) and (b) The Government has examined the issue of a National Wage Policy which has been discussed on many occasions in different fora. Since fixation of wages depends on a number of factors like local conditions, cost of living and paying capacity, which varies from State to State and from Industry to Industry, it has not been found feasible to maintain uniformity in wages all over the country. The Indian Labour Conference, held in November 1985 expressed that "Till such time a national wage is feasible, it would be desirable to have regional minimum wages in regard to which the Central Government may lay down the guidelines. The minimum wages should be revised at regular periodicity and should be linked with rise in the cost of living." Accordingly, the Government issued guidelines in July, 87 for setting up of Regional Minimum Wages Advisory Committees. These Committees renamed subsequently as Regional Labour Ministers' Conferences, made a number of recommendations which include reduction in disparities in minimum wages in different states of a region, setting up of Inter-State Coordination Council and consultation with neighbourig States while fixing/ revising minimum wages.

In the absence of a National Wage Policy, the Central Government introduced National Floor Level Minimum Wage of Rs. 35/- per day in 1996 based on the recommendations of the National Commission on Rural Labour in 1991 and subsequent increase in price level. The Floor Level Minimum Wage was further enhanced to Rs. 40/- per day in August, 1998 when Hon'ble Prime Minister wrote to all the State Governments/Union Territories requesting them to ensure that minimum wages are not paid below Rs. 40/- per day for any scheduled employment. It has been further increased to Rs. 45/- per day due to increase in the Consumer Price Index Number.

(c) Rs. 51.30 lakhs.

Schemes introduced for Child Labourers

†3609. SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of times the schemes introduced for child labourers have been reviewed, so far;

(b) whether Government are aware of the fact that children are still engaged in various types of labour;

(c) if so, the number of cases filed, so far, by Government against various persons; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) the details in this regard for the last three years, State-wise?

The MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) and (b) Evaluation of identified National Child Labour Projects (NCLPs), was taken up by evaluation agencies in the States of Uttar Pradesh, Tamil nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa and Rajathan. Evaluation was also undertaken by Inter-Ministerial teams set up for the purpose. The reports received showed, *inter-alia*, that the magnitude of the child labour problem can be considerably reduced through the rehabilitation measures by the project and that there is need to continue the component of special schools. The performance of NCLPs is continuously reviewed through receipt of periodical reports of project activities and reviews undertaken at the Centre, State and District level. A Central Monitoring Committee, under the Chairmanship of Labour Secretary has also been set up for the overall supervision, monitoring and evaluation of the NCLPs.

Grant-in-aid projects are monitored through periodical reports, field visits and inspections through Central, State and District level machineries. This is a continuous and ongoing process.

(c) and (d) The Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 prohibits employment of children in occupations and processes listed in the schedule to the Act. As per the available information, the State-wise position of the violations detected and prosecutions launched under the act, for the last three years is given in the annexed Statement.

Statement

Name of the State/UT	1996-97		1997-98		1998-99	
	Violations Detected	Prosecutions launched	Violations Detected	Prosecutions launched	Violations Detected	Prosecutions launched
Andhra Pradesh	41	22	551	270	493	553
Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0
Assam	77	0	178	3	0	0
Bihar	1172	31	987	81	279	97
Chandigarh	0	0	0	0	0	0
Daman & Diu	0	0	0	0	0	0
Delhi	109	109	12	12	10	16
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	0	0	0

Name of the State/UT	1996-97		1997-98		1998-99	
	Violations Detected	Prosecutions launched	Violations Detected	Prosecutions launched	Violations Detected	Prosecutions launched
Goa	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gujarat	2	3	0	13	0	0
Haryana	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kerala	5	1	-	-	0	2
Karnataka	-	-	-	-	153	2
Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0
Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	0	0
Maharashtra	97	2	605	389	1913	17
Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0
Orissa	186	2	353	9	127	128
Punjab	15	12	22	24	8	5
Pondicherry	0	0	0	0	-	-
Rajasthan	0	16	0	891	0	601
Tamil Nadu	18	34	5	69	242	241
Tripura	0	0	0	0	0	0
Uttar Pradesh	264	249	-	-	-	-

Regularisation of contract employees in EIL

3610. SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received representations from some associations regarding grievances of contract employees engaged by Engineers India Limited;

(b) if so, what are the broad details of grievances of the Association;

(c) whether Government propose to investigate into the irregularities by the management of Engineers India Ltd. in appointing and terminating the services of these contract employees; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Persons in Central Government Services from Tribal Hill Areas

3611. SHRI PRAKANTA WARISA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the unemployed educated persons from Tribal Hill area of Assam have been recruited in various categories in the Central Government